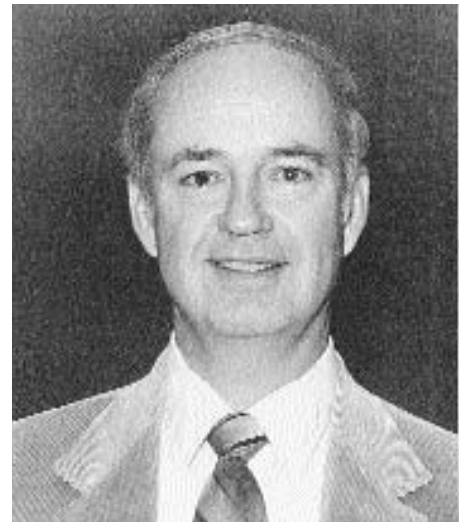


Tribute to a True TREASURE

In Loving Memory of Jerry Johnson

By Joel Glover,

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The TREASURE Forest Program and Alabama's natural resource professionals lost a true treasure when Jerry Johnson passed away on December 31, 2003.

As state forester for the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Jerry was a member of the original group that developed the criteria and guidelines for the TREASURE Forest Program. Serving on the TREASURE Forest subcommittee since its inception, Jerry personally reviewed every single TREASURE Forest nomination. Jerry stated that he felt blessed to have been given the opportunity to work with so many landowners who were practicing good stewardship of their forest and wildlife resources. In turn, the landowners of

Alabama were blessed to have Jerry caring for our natural resources.

Jerry was not one to seek recognition for his accomplishments, however he received many honors and awards during his career. He was the first person to receive the Outstanding Young Forester Award in Alabama; he received the Bill Moody TREASURE Forest Award, the Alabama Wildlife Federation Governor's Soil Conservationist of the Year Award, and was elected to the Alabama Foresters Hall of Fame.

Although Jerry was charged with many duties, TREASURE Forest always held a special place in his heart. He once commented that being closely associated with TREASURE Forest was a highlight of his career. Maintaining the integrity of

the TREASURE Forest Program was his passion.

Those who knew Jerry knew that he was passionate about his Lord, his family, and his profession. He served them all very well. Jerry's funeral was a celebration of his life and his Lord, Jesus Christ. Although he will be sorely missed, we should not be sad. We should know, as Jerry knew, that goodness and mercy followed him all the days of his life and he will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Until we meet again my friend . . . ☛

A native of Centreville, Alabama, Mr. Johnson received his B.S. degree in Forest Management from Auburn University. He began his career with the Soil Conservation Service in 1970.

Boundary Lines

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a dispute over property lines. After having a survey of your land, record the survey plat in your local probate or chancery clerk's office. In most cases you can have the survey recorded and placed in the probate office for less than \$45.00, which is relatively inexpensive. Surveying costs are tax deductible. Our right to own land is sacred. Maintain the corners and lines around your property.

When purchasing any land, have it surveyed and platted by a reputable land surveyor before closing. Also, any land you own that has not been surveyed within the past twenty years should be surveyed. When choosing a surveyor, there are some basic questions that you should ask in order to evaluate their qualifications. 1) How many years have

they been licensed? 2) How many years have they been the surveyor of record for their firm? 3) Have they ever testified as an expert witness in court? 4) At any time, have they ever been sued in a boundary line case and what was the outcome? 5) Do they have Errors & Omissions insurance and are their workers covered by workman compensation insurance? 6) Will they give you a written estimate? 7) Will they draft a written contract for the work to be done? 8) Ask for a list of ten clients. 9) Has the Board of Licensure ever sited their firm, or any individual in their firm in the last five years? 10) Do they have a current certificate of authorization from the Board of Licensure? Have them give you that certificate number.

If after requesting this information from a surveyor or surveying firm, you are not comfortable in making a choice, contact the Alabama State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors at 334.242.5568 or visit their website at www.bels.state.al.us. ☛

Joe Mullins has been licensed in the State of Alabama since 1978 (certification # 12,709) and is also licensed in the State of Mississippi. He is a member of the Alabama Society of Professional Land Surveyors. He also helped organize the West Alabama Society of Professional Surveyors and served two terms as president. Mr. Mullins worked for a private forestry industry for over 15 years before opening his own consulting business. Mullins and Associates, Inc. is located at 1701 Queen City Avenue, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401 (Telephone: 205.752.3702; Fax: 205.758.8168).